

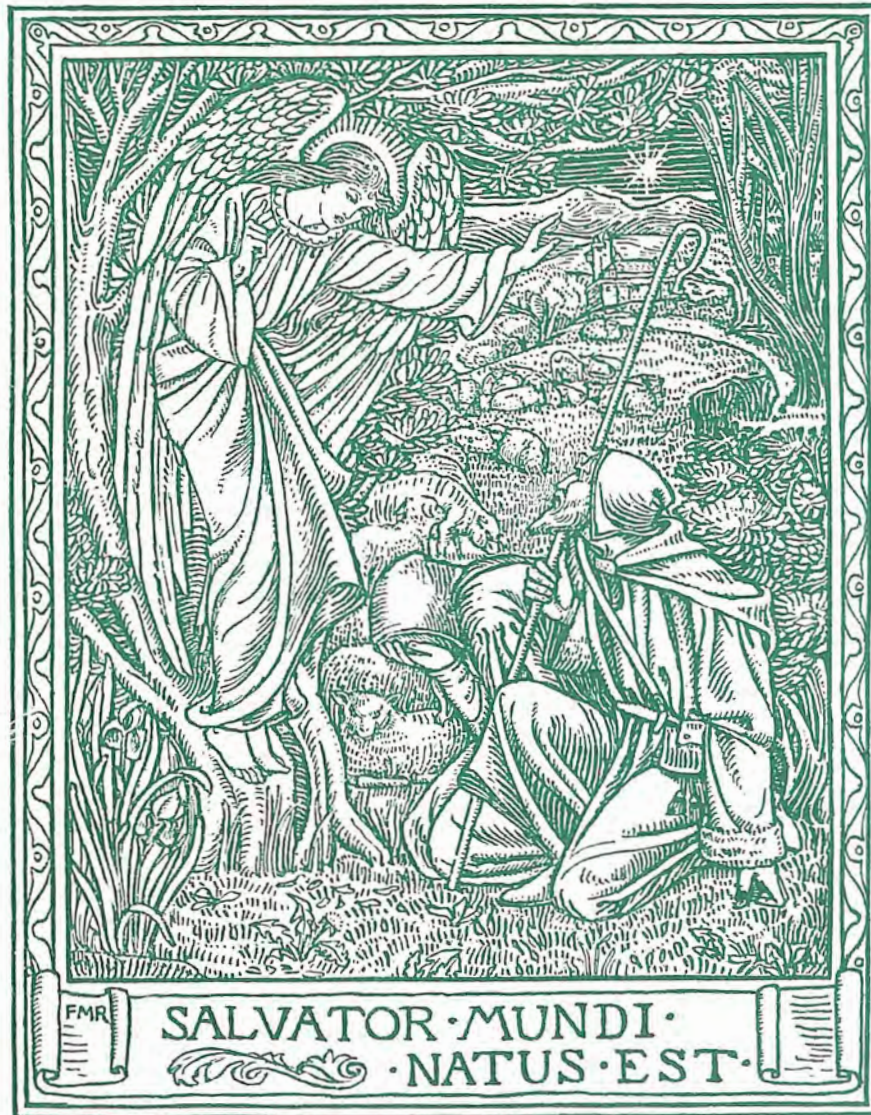
The Church News

Diocese of Pennsylvania

Vol. XXXIV No. 3

PHILADELPHIA, PA.

DECEMBER, 1944



For unto you is born this day in the city of
David a^s Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

CHRISTMAS SUGGESTIONS

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The Church News

OBJECT 1. To promote Unity of Diocesan Life by disseminating news of the Diocese, its institutions, parishes and missions, and by printing letters and pastorals by the Bishop from time to time. 2. To promote the Missionary and Benevolent Work of the Diocese by publishing reports and appeals, and by recording current news and events.

Vol. XXXIV

DECEMBER, 1944

No. 3

Bishop Hart's Message

AMERICA'S GREATEST NEED

"What America needs more than railway extensions, western irrigation, a low tariff, a bigger cotton crop or a larger wheat crop is a revival of religion. The kind that father and mother used to have. A religion that counted it good business to take time for the family worship each morning right in the middle of the wheat harvest. A religion that prompted them to quit work a half hour early on Wednesday so that the whole family could get ready to go to prayer meeting."—DR. FRANCIS J. ARCHER.

I want to commend to you for individual use or for family prayer the Advent-Pre-Lent issue of Forward Day by Day. In this issue is printed an article, "What the Christians stand for in the secular world" by William Temple, Archbishop of Canterbury, whose recent death has saddened us all. If your rector hasn't a copy you may secure one or more at the Church House—cost 5c a copy. This number was written by the Chaplain of a battleship in the Pacific. It is excellent for those in the armed forces. Send one with your next letter to any friend in the service.

One of our clergy, who is averaging forty baptisms a month, tells me that he attributes the large number of these candidates to his mid-week Prayer Meeting-Bible Class. Undoubtedly we have lost something very vital out of our Church life with the loss of the Prayer Meeting and Bible Class. Perhaps the main reason why we have lost them to such a large extent is that in many instances they had become stereotyped and boring. But we need to give our people an opportunity to express themselves, and to have the chance to discuss with their pastor

and fellow churchmen questions which give them most concern. At Trinity Church, Boston, I was struck by the fact that some of the most faithful among the older members talked most of Phillips Brooks' Bible Class, not of his sermons.



We do not have to have the stereotyped Prayer Meeting on Wednesday night, nor the equally stereotyped Bible Class on Sunday morning. Phillips Brooks had his class on Saturday night! I know of one clergyman in a small town who had a men's Bible class on Monday nights. It was not limited to the men of his own parish, and it gave him an opportunity to know what the interests of the community really were. When I was at Trinity Church, Boston, I used to invite

small groups of men, with whom I had not had an opportunity to talk, to the rectory for an evening. I was always surprised at the number who came. Again and again a man would say, "This is the first opportunity that I have ever had of talking informally with my rector."

The following report from St. Luke's, Kensington, is interesting. Mr. Milton Wallace, Superintendent of the Sunday School, and the Rector, the Rev. Gideon C. Montgomery, over a period of two weeks made 73 calls. They report the following results:

- Located
- 36 for Confirmation.
 - 11 for Baptism.
 - 4 for Sunday School teachers.
 - 7 new members for the choir.
 - 7 families brought back to active work in the parish.
 - 20 for Cradle Roll (no Cradle Roll until this survey).
 - 34 for the Young People's Group (no Young People's Group until this survey).

Prior to this survey 58 pupils in Sunday School. Now 152. Note what happens when the laymen work with the Rector.

Thomas Kelly says in his "A Testament of Devotion": "God can be found, there is a last rock for our souls, a resting place of absolute peace and joy and power and radiance and security." Advent is preparation for Christmas. We can share Mr. Kelly's assurance if we prepare ourselves for the proper celebration of Christmas. May Christianity's joyous news come to us afresh during this season.

Oliver Hart

The Church News

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CHRISTMAS CUSTOMS

The multitudes brought to America from many kindreds and tongues have each made a contribution to our celebration of Christmas. We sing carols because it was the custom in England whence the first settlers came. We decorate evergreen trees because the German immigrants taught us so to do. We distribute gifts and feed the poor even as the Bohemian King Wenceslas did "on the Feast of Stephen, when the snow lay round about smooth and crisp and even." More and more our children have adopted the French use of the creche with the baby Jesus lying in the straw while the ox and ass stand reverently by. Sunday Schools are dramatizing the Christmas story as St. Francis taught the Italian children to do seven hundred years ago, while the priest of the parish and the admiring parents sit round about. It is the same today as when the old carol was written:

*"The priests do rove aloud; and
roundabout their parents
stande*

*To see the sport and with their
voice do help them and
their hande."*

But of course imitation of former times and other lands is not the real reason why we behave as we do at Christmas. We have to dig deeper than the superficial explanation of custom and contagion to answer the question, "Why do we do all these things?" If anyone had told Sir Isaac Newton that the apple fell from the tree in his garden because apples had always fallen from trees in other countries he would not have thanked his informer.

When William Blake, the poet, was asked why men were so cheerful and kind and forgiving at

Christmas, he said that it was because God had intended man to be like that always. That was man's true nature, but his godly impulses had been imprisoned most of the year until the spirit of Christmas came and released them as in the old fairy stories.

It is God's nature to give and to forgive, and for a short time at Christmas men are like God: they are their real selves, the men God meant them to be. The searching spirit of Christ, always abroad looking for a home in the soul, draws near, and finding the door open at Christmas silently enters and rules in our hearts, a king for a day. The true explanation is that Christ is reborn at Christmas. Men are the manger of God.

ST. STEPHEN'S SERVICE CLUB READY FOR CHRISTMAS

Plans for a "homey" Christmas at St. Stephen's Service Club are well under way. It is a bit easier to know how to proceed this year with last year's experience to serve as a guide.

The celebration will really get started Christmas Eve and should have an even bigger crowd this year than last since Christmas Eve will be Sunday. Dancing, games, and carol singing will set the spirit of things. And, if we can forecast anything on the basis of last year, Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus will break in on the party with a huge grab-bag of gifts for everyone. Later will come the service in the church; then

back to the Club for a snack before calling it a day.

Christmas Day itself will certainly find at least a few boys wishing for home and out looking for somewhere to find a bit of the Christmas atmosphere and spirit. We will be ready for the early ones with breakfast and for all the many others who will drop in before the day is over. There will be hostesses and workers again this year willing to give up their normal activities to make this special Christmas gift to those alone and away from home on the day. Others who cannot give personal service will help through contributions to the Holiday Fund, mailed to Martha U. W. Davis, Treasurer, St. Stephen's Service Club, 923 Ludlow Street, Philadelphia 7, Pa.

EPISCOPAL HOSPITAL

Christmas, the joy day of the year, is always happiest when you remember the "old folks" in Harrison Home and the children in the Episcopal Hospital. Have you finished reading a delightful love story, or a more serious volume? Do send them to the Hospital. We will collect them if they are left at Church House, 202 South 19th Street, and they are appreciated. On Saturday, December 30th, the Annual Charity Ball will take place. Do grace it with your presence for the Debutante Cotillion is a beautiful addition.

To one and all—a Blessed Christmas and our thanks for your interest in our Hospital.

MRS. J. HECTOR MCNEAL

REDISCOVERING CHRISTMAS

☆

*"He has come to field and Manger
And no more is God a Stranger."*

☆

Only God could have thought of Christmas. Its beauty is beyond the insight of mortals, so simple in its sublimity, so homey yet so heavenly. It is a tapestry woven of stable-straw and star-light, to bring us back from a wisdom that is not wise because it is unhelpful.

Man has one answer to every problem—force; but God works slowly, quietly from within, by a strange power which men call weakness. He did not send an army to conquer the world; He sent a Baby to make a woman cry. It is a scene to sanctify the world by its very loveliness.

Such beauty bends the knee; such wonder breaks the heart—and mends it. Today, in a world of cruelty and horror, we must rediscover Christmas, in our hearts and in our faith, its beauty and grace and joy. If its music seems far off, it is because it is not our music that we hear.

"Merry Christmas" in a world of misery, for Christmas is a fact, but also a faith, and a prophecy of a time, or soon or late, when there will be "peace on earth among men of goodwill." It will come true.

JOSEPH FORT NEWTON

Secretary's Notes

A lay reader is called to do the most important work in a parish and should be a man worthy of the office. The rector, not the lay reader, makes the request to the Bishop for the license. The rector assures the Bishop that the man for whom he is applying possesses the necessary qualifications. Bishop Hart informed the lay readers present on November 13th that he would not renew their licenses until they had sent to him or to the Secretary a written report.

During 1943 there were fewer candidates presented for confirmation than any year since 1920. Here is a real opportunity for lay readers to assist their rectors. Inquire among the people for candidates and present these names to the rector.

Bishop Hart has arranged with Bishop Roberts to be in the Church House on Mondays and to confirm the candidates in the Chapel at 4 o'clock. Arrangements should be made in advance with the Secretary.

The Church Pension Fund is the servant of the Church. It desires to make an informal report to the several conventions meeting in 1945 and if there be questions that the clergy or laity wish answered kindly send the same in writing to the Rev. Charles H. Long, 202 South 19th Street.

A new pageant for Christmastide, "The Incarnate Word," has just been published, dedicated to Bishop Hart. The organist of the Church of the Holy Trinity has prepared the music. There are parts for soprano, baritone solos, chorus, narrator and organ. Further information may be secured from J. Fischer & Bro.

Deaconess Newbold, at the request of the Bishop, is keeping in touch with the women of the Church who are serving in the armed forces. She wants the women to know that the Church has a post-war plan for the training of women.

POST-WAR PLANNING FOR WOMEN

Training Schools for Deaconesses and other Church Workers of the Protestant Episcopal Church
(Continued on Page Twelve)

RETREAT FOR LAYMEN

The laymen of the Diocese are invited to a late afternoon and evening "Retreat" to be held in St. Andrew's Chapel at The Philadelphia Divinity School on Saturday, December 9th. The Conductor, the Rev. David Holmes, will give three "Advent Meditations."

Evensong will be read at 5 o'clock. Supper will be served at 6:15 at a cost not exceeding \$1.00. After the final Meditation, at about 8:30, the Retreat will close with Compline.

Reservations for supper should be mailed to the Rev. J. Jarden Guenther, in care of the Church House.

THE BISHOP SUGGESTS

1. Before making out the annual parochial report for 1944, read carefully Canon XIV of our diocesan canons.

Recognize the fundamental difference between "The Parish Register" and "List of Communicants." *You never remove a name from the Register.* You may note after the name that the person has died or moved away or is counted by you as inactive. I suggest that the word "inactive" always be written in pencil so that, if the communicant becomes active again, the notation can be easily erased.

2. The List of Communicants should be brought up to date as of December 31st and that list should be the basis of the annual report. The dividing line between an active and an inactive communicant is not defined in the canons of General Convention. In making your 1944 reports I suggest that you count as active only those who have since January 1, 1942, shown an interest through attendance at public worship, by work in one of the parish organizations or by financial support of the Church. Some dioceses, "for statistical purposes only," count as communicants only those who have received the Holy Communion within two years. I would not advise following such a plan unless directed to do so by General Convention. Using the three-fold yardstick suggested above, a conscientious rector can make a fairly accurate record of the strength of the parish. In any case his List of Communicants should show whom he considered to be "Active" on December 31st. A new minister coming into any parish may before the end of another year change the rating in one or two cases but, at least, he would know whom his predecessor counted as "active."

At our 1945 Diocesan Convention I should like to see Canon XIV revised so as to provide for the establishment of a Diocesan Register. This plan has been followed for years in the Diocese of Washington. The rector of a parish or separate congregation transfers to the Diocesan Register the names of all inac-

tive communicants and notes in his Parish Register that these persons have been transferred to the Diocesan Register. During my six years in the Diocese of Washington, there was never any great unloading on the Diocesan Register. Where rectors had lost touch with members, they transferred them to the Diocesan Register. The names were not lost thereby and the parochial reports were more accurate.

Anniversaries

The Rev. Edward M. Baczewski celebrated the twentieth anniversary of his ordination on Sunday evening, October 1st. To mark the occasion the congregation of Holy Redeemer had a subscription dinner, which was well attended. Dr. L. Gapinski was master of ceremonies. Addresses were made by the Very Rev. Dean J. K. Shryock (in English), Mr. G. Kociel, the Rev. L. Huvah, the Rev. J. Jablonski, and the Rev. M. Lawincki (in Polish). Mr. Baczewski replied to the very earnest testimony and good wishes of his friends in a most gracious manner, and thanked the congregation for the gifts received by Mrs. Baczewski and himself. After the dinner the tables were cleared away and real Polish dancing began. It was a gay and happy occasion and everyone went away glad that they had had the opportunity of extending good wishes to Mr. Baczewski, who is such a faithful pastor to his people, and to Mrs. Baczewski, his quiet, ever helpful wife.

E. A. D.

EIGHTIETH ANNIVERSARY

The people of the Free Church of St. John, the Rev. John H. Lever, Rector, celebrated the eightieth anniversary of the union of the parish with the Convention Sunday afternoon, November 5th, with a dinner in the parish house.

There was an enthusiastic gathering of 152 to hear inspiring and happy addresses by Bishop Hart; Dean Shryock; Mr. Robert Brown, Principal of Jones Junior High School; Mr. James Gilmore, Principal of Stetson Junior High School; Mr. George W. Rose, Rector's Warden, and Mr. J. Franklin Helms, Accounting Warden.

Rev. J. W. Twelves, one of St. John's "boys," and his Warden, Mr. Willard, brought greetings.



ADVENT OFFERING FOR TREVOSE

This is a call for adventure—a challenge to the boys and girls of our Church Schools to take their part in our Church's program for this Diocese—to "Go Forward!"

Advent is a time of preparation—what could be more fitting than for our Church Schools, through their Advent Offering, to help prepare another place for our Lord!

With this in mind Bishop Hart has designated the Advent Offering this year for the new mission which the Convocation of Germantown is starting in the Trevoise section of Bucks County, a growing rural locality in which we have no work as yet. The mission will minister to an area of some 2½ square miles, with a population of between 3000 and 4000. An offer has been made of a centrally located site we hope to be able to purchase. Cottage services have been held for the past three months pending the purchase of a property. Considerable interest has been manifested by the people in this area, which augurs well for the future of the work.

Will your Church School accept this challenge—will you join with the other boys and girls of the Diocese in this great "preparation" venture?

YOUTH

Those of our youth groups following "One Way" (this year's program of the United Movement of the Church's Youth) will use the material contained in "Lo, He Comes" (25c). To be used in Advent, this unit should guide young people to a clearer understanding and deeper appreciation of the real meaning of Christmas. It provides for four worship-instruction services to be followed by discussion and activities. The aims of the four sessions are: 1. To lead to an understanding of the meaning and significance of the Incarnation. 2. To understand to commitment of Jesus and to rededicate ourselves to Him. 3. To show Jesus' basic convictions and what it cost to hold them. 4. To see in Christ the Lord of heaven and earth, and to win commitment to Him as Lord and Master of our lives today.

Ready now, also, is material for an Epiphany Feast of Lights.

THE WINTER CONFERENCE

The Winter Conference will be held on five Tuesdays beginning January 9th from 7 P. M. to 9:30 P. M. in the Church House and the Church of the Holy Trinity. This year the classes will be tied to and grow out of a half-hour period of worship and instruction in Holy Trinity Church, where the theme for the conference will be given.

The classes in the next two periods will deal with the Bible, Doctrine, Church History, Prayer and International Understanding. This plan should give added meaning and understanding to the study undertaken and provide a useful and inspiring evening for Church people in the Diocese.

A JUST AND DURABLE PEACE

Mr. Louis M. Washburn, Vice-Chairman of our Diocesan Committee on a Christian World Order, has been appointed by the Presiding Bishop to be one of the delegates from the Episcopal Church to the Second National Study Conference on the Churches and a Just and Durable Peace to be held in Cleveland in January. The Conference will meet under the auspices of the Federal Council of Churches' Commission on a Just and Durable Peace, which produced the "Guiding Principles" on which was based the "Six Pillars of Peace." The purpose of this study conference is to study the existing international situation in the light of the Guiding Principles and the Six Pillars; to study the basic problem of the peace strategy of the churches and to adopt such findings and make such recommendations to the churches and the government as may be agreed to by the conference. The delegates will in no sense speak officially for their respective communions and organizations. As at Delaware, the message of the Conference will be submitted to the churches for such action as may in each case seem appropriate and desirable. Our Committee on a Christian World Order is prepared to help groups to study this whole question and is urging that groups be formed in every parish.

CHURCH WOMAN'S CLUB

Your attention is called to an error in the calendar of the Church Woman's Club. The first meeting will be December 5th, 7:15 o'clock. The Rev. Dr. Dunphy will be the speaker. Also keep the following dates before you:

December 12—7:15 P. M.—

The Rev. Benjamin Priest

December 19—7:15 P. M.—

The Rev. William X. Smith

December 26—5:30 P. M.—

The Christmas Party

January 2—7:30 P. M.—

Feast of Lights at St. James' Church, Philadelphia

BOOK REVIEW

The American Lectionary, by Bayard H. Jones. (Morehouse-Gorham Co., 1944, \$2.50.)

Probably few persons, clerical or lay, realize what a tremendous task it is to construct a satisfactory Lectionary. Many factors have to be considered,—such as: the selection of readable passages, not too long, not too frequently repeated (if at all) providing for the systematic reading of substantially the entire Bible, fitted into appropriate times and seasons of the Church Year.

The Committee on the Lectionary, whose work, completed after nine years of painstaking research and labor, is effectively and interestingly recorded in this volume, has put the whole Church in its debt.

Dr. Jones states in "The American Prayer Book": "Upon those mathematical-looking tables depend quite as much of the intelligent well-being of the Church as upon the text of the Prayer Book itself. The assignment of the lessons of Scripture 'appointed to be read in churches' is in fact a supreme function of the Teaching Office, whose importance cannot be overstated."

One section of the book contains a splendid account of the development of the Church Year, and the application of the Lectionary to the variation of seasons. The use of Scripture in worship is traced from earliest times, and reasons for the numerous revisions of the Lectionary until its present completed form, which harmonizes to a remarkable degree, in the Sunday and week-day lessons, the many conflicting elements caused by Church and Civil Calendars, Fixed and Movable Feasts and Seasons.

With the multiple choices of assigned lessons in the recent Lectionaries, the Clergy have perhaps had to read more of the Bible in making choice of the Lessons for "next Sunday" but this was probably done hastily. Multiple choices are still given but the tables of Sunday choices provided in this book enable the clergyman to make a quick, but intelligent choice of suitable Lessons and Psalms.

Every clergyman and theological student should have this valuable volume in his library, and laymen would find it instructive.

It is full of historical data, and constant reference to it enables the reader to deepen his devotional, and expand his expository use of Holy Scripture.

F. E. S.

In the Diocese

The Rev. George A. Trowbridge and the Rev. John R. Hart have been made members of a Philadelphia Committee of the American Cancer Society, to disseminate information about the disease as widely as possible.

The Rev. William J. Dietrich appeared before the Zoning Board of Adjustment to oppose proposed changes in zoning restrictions in the neighborhood of Calvary Church, Germantown.

The Rev. Paul R. R. Reinhardt, Rector of St. James Church, Prospect Park, celebrated the 30th anniversary of his ordination and the 15th anniversary of his ministry at Prospect Park.

Bishop Conkling, of Chicago, was celebrant and preacher at St. Luke's Church, Germantown, on St. Luke's Day. The Bishop was formerly Rector of the parish.

The Committee for the Enlargement of the Fund for the Endowment of the Episcopate in this Diocese has recently issued a pamphlet explaining the purpose of the fund and appealing for its gradual increase.

Bishop Hart recently dedicated memorials in the Chapel of the Redeemer of the Seamen's Church Institute in connection with the 24th annual meeting of the Institute.

St. Martin's Chapel, at the Christian Settlement House, 539 North 12th Street, contains a carved shrine and a mural depicting events in the life of St. Martin. Guests of the Settlement House have built the chapel, including the shrine and other decorations.

Mrs. Alice Brown Kinsolving, widow of the former Bishop of Southern Brazil, died in Philadelphia on November 10th. She was buried from St. Andrew's Church in Mt. Holly, N. J., where she was born.

The room on the second floor of the Parish House of St. James' Church, Downingtown, has been enlarged to supply additional space for the Sunday School.

The Choir of St. Matthew's Church, 18th and Girard Avenue, presented Haydn's "The Creation" at a special musical service on the evening of November 12th. Roma E. Angel, F. A. G. O., is organist and choirmaster.

On the Sunday next before Advent, the Very Rev. Lawrence Rose, D.D., Dean of the Berkley Divinity School, preached in St. Clement's Church, 20th and Cherry Streets.

Bishop Hart, Dean Shreiner, the Rev. Jacob Winterstein, of West Chester, and the Rev. Peter Van der Hiel, of Downingtown, participated in the 75th anniversary of the Church of the Trinity, Coatesville.

The Clerical Brotherhood has appointed a committee consisting of the Rev. W. Roulston McKean, the Rev. Walter C. Pugh, and the Rev. Nathanael B. Groton to consider the matter of forming a Diocesan Communion Alms Fund.

The Rev. J. Clemens Kolb, Chaplain at the University of Pennsylvania, discusses the social, intellectual, and physical problems of the returning veterans who are entering colleges, in a recent issue of "The Witness."

The Ivy League of Old Christ Church is sponsoring a series of services in the church on the second Sunday of each month on the general theme of "The Christian and Peace."

A YEAR-ROUND Gift

A Subscription to THE CHURCH NEWS

Fill in the blank below and mail to The Church News with One Dollar. An appropriate Christmas Card will be sent to the one who is to receive the magazine as a Christmas Remembrance with your best wishes.

THE CHURCH NEWS

202 S. 19th Street, Philadelphia 3, Pa.

Enclosed find One Dollar for a Christmas Gift Subscription to The Church News to be sent to the following named person with my compliments.

Name of person to receive paper.....

Street address.....

City or town.....

Parish.....

Name of Donor.....

Donor's Parish.....

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Checks should be drawn to the order of THE CHURCH NEWS



MRS. OLIVER J. HART, *Editor*

Christmas Message

*"Not what we gain, but what we give
Measures the worth of the life we live."*

Our thoughts are turning now towards the great festival of Christmas. It is the season for the giving of gifts. Through the years this custom has been observed. The practice has become so well established that, aided and abetted by the commercial interests, we shop frantically, scarcely reminding ourselves why we give, and to whom we give. Are we almost losing sight of the real significance of Christmas?

Material gifts at Christmas time for those who need them are both fine and fitting; Christ taught us to minister to the physical necessities of men. These gifts are the easiest kind to give; they cost us little by comparison. But on Christmas Day God gave to the world the supreme example in giving. On this day He gave His greatest possible gift to man. He gave Himself, in the person of His Son.

The world needs spiritual blessings today just as it did nearly two thousand years ago. This is very much your concern and very much my concern. The fitting observance of Christmas is a challenge to every Christian. With God's help we must seek to give spiritual gifts, even as we have received them: love, understanding, patience, tolerance, cheerfulness. They are the greatest gifts of all; they transform mere existence to radiant, serene and adventurous living. We must give ourselves, unhesitatingly and unafraid.

And so, as we have heretofore in feverish quest sought to gratify the material desires of others, let us try as intently this Christmastide to determine their spiritual needs, and prayerfully assist in their attainment. The gifts of the spirit that we have received are not ours selfishly to hide away in our hearts, but rather they are ours to share.

Finally, let us remember that much is required to whom much is given. "Freely ye have received, freely give."

ELLEN FRAZIER TILDEN

JUNIOR WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

The Junior Woman's Auxiliary started their year's work with a meeting for parish presidents and members at the Church Woman's Club in October. Mrs. William Shoch presided. Many groups were represented and gained inspiration and help from the address on the United Thank Offering by Mrs. A. Disston Rile and from the reports of Board members and the exchange of ideas and discussion which followed. The next meeting will be held Wednesday evening, December 13th, at the Church Woman's Club, at which time the vast Christmas work for our institutions will be planned. The year's program for these bi-monthly meetings is to present the work of the various departments of the Woman's Auxiliary. November 8th we held a Quiet Evening in cooperation with the Diocesan Evening Branch of the Woman's Auxiliary.

Now more than ever the challenging program of the Woman's Auxiliary is appealing to younger women who wish to share in the whole program of the Church. Many rectors have expressed the desire to organize such a group and new ones are being formed. The President and Executive Board of the Junior Woman's Auxiliary are ready and willing to be of any help.

DIOCESAN EVENING BRANCH

The Diocesan Evening Branch got off to a great start in September this year. In spite of wind, rain, and floods, thirty-nine devoted women representing twenty parishes met the evening of the hurricane to hear Mrs. Robert Frazier, who spoke with much zeal and inspiration on some of the chief tasks that lie ahead of us as Auxiliary women.

In October with more favorable weather but with the same gusto we tackled subjects of the proportionate share in the parish, the falling off of attendance in our Church Schools, the enlistment of all women in the work of our Church, the United Thank Offering, subscriptions to our Church periodicals, and devotional programs at meetings, in addition to hearing an excellent report on Sleighton Farms by Miss Bertha Mills.

On November 8th, we met with the Junior women for a Quiet Evening conducted by the Rev. William X. Smith. Our Christmas meeting, December 13th, will again abound in good-will and generosity as the Christian love of our members goes out through gifts to many parts of our Diocese and nation.

There are women in every parish who cannot attend a morning or afternoon meeting. We want these women to share with us in the full life of the Church and the Woman's Auxiliary.

THE PROVINCIAL SYNOD

October 17th found your delegates to the Provincial Synod headed for Lancaster, Pa. Mrs. Francis Packard, Mrs. George Trowbridge, and Mrs. Oliver Hart were the regular delegates, with Mrs. John Hill, the Provincial President, and Mrs. Jasper Nicolls, the new Treasurer.

The Synod adopted new ordinances providing for the formation of an Executive Council of twelve, to promote more effectively the work in this Province. To this Council Mrs. Hill and two other women appointed by her were invited to act in an advisory capacity.

The joint meetings of the women's organizations and those of the Woman's Auxiliary were most ably and graciously presided over by Mrs. Hill. Our representative to the National Executive Board, Mrs. W. R. Taliaferro, brought us a vivid picture of what has been going on at the meetings of the Board and of the special needs in the Indian field, which is to be a recipient of our Mission Study Offering in 1945.

The Provincial Project adopted at the meeting is a challenging one, and must come from every branch of the Auxiliary in this Diocese, instead of a small sum voted by the Diocesan Executive Board, as it has been in the past. The new project is to be for the discretionary and travel fund of a new Provincial Secretary for College Work, soon to be appointed in this Province. Miss Helen Turnbull, Associate Secretary of the National Division of College Work, addressed the Synod on this subject, and stressed the need of this fund to enable the Secretary to do efficient work. Mrs. Packard promised that each Auxiliary in our Diocese would contribute at least the necessary \$1.00, according to the motion passed.

BISHOP HART TO SPEAK DECEMBER 6th

"And they continued steadfastly in the Apostles' teaching and fellowships, in the breaking of bread and the prayers."

On the first Wednesday of Advent, December 6th, there will be a corporate communion and breakfast for all women of the Diocese. This will take the place of our regular monthly noon meeting. Bishop Hart will be the celebrant and speaker, taking for his subject, "Fellowship." The place, Christ Church, 2nd and Market Streets; and the hour, 8 A. M. This service is planned for all women regardless of organization affiliation, members of Altar Guilds, Church Periodical Club, Daughters of the King, Girls' Friendly, and Women's Aids of Convocations as well as all members of the Woman's Auxiliary.

Reservations for breakfast (\$.50) may be made through the Woman's Auxiliary Office, any member of the Planning Committee or by telephoning Mrs. Burton at Locust 4675.

GIRLS' FRIENDLY SOCIETY

The Girls' Friendly Society was one of the fortunate few to hear Bishop Charles Boynton tell about the Church's work in Puerto Rico recently when he spent two days in the Diocese. The occasion was the first diocesan meeting of the Girls' Friendly for the 1944-45 season, held in St. Timothy's, Roxborough. Plans were made at the meeting for an active season of fun and real work, and progress toward carrying out those plans is already to be noted in two rather different undertakings. One was a quiet evening at St. Margaret's House in Germantown, conducted by the Rev. Alfred M. Smith, of the City Mission; the other is for their annual sale of Christmas cards, even though supplies this year will be limited.

IS ANY SICK AMONG YOU?

TEN SUGGESTIONS FOR VISITING THE SICK, BY ROBERT D. MORRIS

Plan your visit. What does the patient need in things or spirit which you can give through your friendship?

Talk with the doctor or nurse before seeing the patient. It is useful to learn

from them how he has been getting along and how he feels today.

Pull up a chair. Make it easy for your friend to begin talking with you, by being natural, comfortable and quietly cheerful.

Give assurance. The hospital is the best place for a sick man. You can help your friend realize this by your own confidence in all that is being done for him and by your trust in the hospital staff.

Understand. Wholeheartedly put yourself in your friend's place long enough to appreciate how he thinks and feels about the experience, but remember that it is his sickness and not yours.

Listen. The sick man needs a good listener, and it is through really hearing what he has to say that you discover what you can do to be helpful.

Respond. Help your friend feel secure, comfortable, hopeful, and free from anxiety, by all that you say to him and do for him after you have seen his real needs.

Follow through. If there is something you can do for him after you leave, talk it over.

End your visit with confident, friendly trust that in your friend's complete response to God's care there is real security and salvation.

After the visit. Humbly offer up to God your relation to your friend, seeking light on the meaning of your visit and further ways you can help him know the real source of strength and peace.



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War Commission

Aid to the Discharged— Word From Chaplains

War Commission committees of the parishes will be forwarded from time to time information which will assist them in aiding discharged service personnel. The clergy are asked to check the names and addresses of their parish committees with the office of the War Commission so that an accurate mailing list will result.

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The names of members of parishes who have made the supreme sacrifice will be published in *THE CHURCH NEWS* each month, provided such information is forwarded to the Bishop. He desires this information so that letters of condolence may be sent to the families of the deceased.

PERTINENT PAMPHLETS

A pamphlet has been prepared by Temple University entitled "Educational Opportunities at Temple University under the G. I. Bill of Rights." This gives a complete outline of various school and college opportunities which can be made available without cost to discharged service personnel.

A government publication, House Document No. 682, entitled " Servicemen's Rights and Benefits," is a handy guide for veterans of the armed forces and their dependents.

A small supply of each of these pamphlets are available at the office of the War Commission and will be distributed without cost to clergy or to members of parish committees.

WAR COMMISSION OFFERING

The 1945 War Commission Offering is planned for Sunday, February 11th, at which time it is hoped that an offering will be taken in all parishes as an increasing number of our parishioners are going into the Army and Navy.

The following excerpts are from letters from clergymen of this Diocese who are serving overseas as Chaplains:

FROM A CHAPLAIN IN FRANCE

"We are holding services every Sunday in many places, mess halls, theatres and in the rain in the woods. We generally have five services each Sunday. Last Sunday afternoon we held a service in one of the cemeteries about twenty-six miles from our headquarters. Enlisted personnel, both white and colored, were in attendance as well as many French civilians who reverently joined with us although they could not understand what we were saying. At the close of the service we announced we would sing one stanza of 'Nearer, My God, to Thee' for the boys 'out there.' What touched us very much was that the French people in their own language, joined heartily in the singing of that hymn. After the service, the French Protestant preacher of a church ten miles away came over and spoke to us.

"It is an awful feeling to hear the roar of enemy motors in the sky and just hold one's self waiting for the outcome. At that time the 91st Psalm does give us strength and confidence, and we think of it many times during the night watches. When one sees the enemy flares dropped and then the planes coming over to bomb the area and hears the anti-aircraft guns go into action, one realizes that only through God's help and guidance is he safe. So these prayers help."

FROM ANOTHER CHAPLAIN

"The supreme thrill of all is to visit the hospitals, which, naturally, comprise one of the most imperative as well as inspiring angles of the Chaplain's job! Gollee, but the American soldiers in them are glorious and wonderful in their spirit!

For the most part, they have kept their 'rendezvous with destiny,' and, as a consequence, have grasped the true meaning of life. They have an appreciation of life's essential and true values, which few among their countrymen back home seem to have visioned as yet.

"How puny such things as gas, tire and travel restrictions back in the States seem, when view from the summit of their knightly spirit, and how selfish! It would be a purging experience if many of our American 'grippers' could see and talk with these boys in our army hospitals in France or in the other combat theatres of this far-flung global struggle. Daily, I get down upon my knees and thank our Heavenly Father for those heroes of the beaches and hedge-rows who traveled this path ahead of us. They surely did an unparalleled job. As for me, I am convinced that a few weeks here has done more for the depth and reality of the spiritual side of my ministry than as many years back home. I am deeply grateful for this significant opportunity."

FROM A CHAPLAIN IN ASIA

"We can now tell you that we are in Assam and that we are somewhere on the Ledo Road. This means that contrary to most people's idea of a General Hospital we are not in a big city but rather in the jungles. This has created a problem for we are practically hermits. Now we are getting down to brass tacks as you can see. If you should get hold of any good spiritual book, I could use it to feed a hungry spirit. At the present moment that is all that I need. We are getting everything else and I am well supplied."



Christmas Greetings

TO THOSE IN THE ARMED FORCES

You are uppermost in our thoughts and prayers at this Christmas time. As we celebrate the birth of the Prince of Peace, may we give ourselves more completely to Him.

Christ's peace is the fruit of righteousness and the victory of social and individual justice. Christ's peace is not based on victory over Germany and Japan but on victory over selfishness in our own hearts. Service men and civilians can unite in a determination to apply to our economic and political life those principles for which our men and women have fought and died.

The sacrifices which are so freely being made to win the war must be excelled in the struggle for a worthy peace. Our people have utter confidence in your ability to win the war. They are not quite so sure of their own willingness to sacrifice for the peace. Either we march down the road of selfish privilege to utter ruin or we march painfully up the road toward the kingdom of righteousness, peace and joy.

May Christ's peace prevail in our Country and rest upon all His people in every land and of every tongue.

Faithfully your Bishop,

OLIVER J. HART

TEEN AGE CANTEEN

On October 27th the Teen Age Canteen of St. Elisabeth's Church, 16th and Mifflin Streets, celebrated its first anniversary with a special dance marked by door-prizes, "jitter-bug" contest, special decorations and refreshments. The Rev. Thomas E. Meryweather was the special guest of the evening and congratulated the young people on the progress made during the past year. He had been present and had given advice the opening night and the young people were eager to get his reaction on what had been done. The project is strictly a community venture with a senior and junior committee. There have been four chairmen of the Junior Committee: two have been called to the service and are in the Navy; the other two, Warren Krutzke and Vincent Franchetti, are working together as co-chairmen. In the past year one girl and nine boys have gone into the service from this group. The Junior Committee painted the hall and stairway of the parish house this past summer and paid all the expenses. There are a few rules strictly observed at the dances held every Friday night from 8 to 11 P. M. The Senior Committee is on hand Friday nights, too, to greet the young people (14½ to 18 years) and to guide where necessary. Those interested feel that this venture has been a real crime-prevention project and has provided clean, wholesome fun for a large group of teen-agers.

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Reports

THE DIVINITY SCHOOL

The Governing Boards of The Divinity School have been reorganized into a Board of Trustees. For some time it has been felt that the system of a Board of Trustees and a Board of Overseers, meeting usually as the Joint Boards, was rather cumbersome. For many months a committee, headed by the Rev. Dr. Niblo, has been at work revising the Constitution and By-Laws and at a meeting of the boards on October 30th "The Statutes of The Divinity School" were adopted and put into effect. The chief changes are: a Board of Trustees of fifteen members in place of the former Joint Boards of twenty-seven members; the changing of the date of the Annual Meeting to October; and formal provision for a Department of Women.

The Board of Trustees was elected as follows:

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One hundred and ten years spent in supplying Prayer Books and Hymnals to parishes and missions unable to buy their own is the record this year of the Bishop White Prayer Book Society.

During the past year almost 7000 Prayer Books and Hymnals have been provided to help the work and worship of the Church. In the past

their gifts have gone all over the world from small quantities supplied through Army and Navy Chaplains to large shipments to some of the war prisoner camps.

On the home front the work of the Society reaches not only into the small parishes and missions throughout the country that need help, but it is often able to help chaplains in church institutions and hospitals where the Prayer Book and Hymnal are essential tools in carrying out the ministry of the Church. But it is true this year as every year that there are far more opportunities where good could be done than there are funds to permit the Society to take advantage of those opportunities.

SEAMEN'S INSTITUTE

At the 24th annual meeting of the Seamen's Church Institute of Philadelphia, held in the auditorium, 211 Walnut Street, Monday, October 30, 1944, W. West Frazier, III, was elected President. He succeeds Sydney P. Clark, who held the office for the past ten years. Mr. Frazier was a member of the Operating Committee and Secretary of the Board of Managers for several years past.

The new president represents a family long known along the waterfront as masters and operators of ships, importers and brokers. His maternal great-grandfather sailed the first ship from Philadelphia to China. His grandfather, William W. Frazier, was a member of the Board of Managers of the Churchmen's Missionary Association for Seamen from 1870 to 1925. A great-uncle, B. W. Frazier, is listed in the contributors of that organization in the year 1850 shortly after the consecration of the Floating Chapel of the Redeemer, which was the beginning of that association's work. Mr. Frazier's father, the late William W. Frazier, Jr., was secretary of that organization, whose activity centered at Front and Queen Streets in later years, and held that office for over a quarter of a century.

Mr. Frazier thus represents the third generation in active service in behalf of seamen's welfare. At the present time he is a prominent manufacturer and Lieut. (j.g.) Voluntary Port Security Force.

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(Continued from Page Three)

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